

Capsule Summary  
SM-629  
Fennie and Mazie Bailey House  
Colton's Point Vicinity  
Private

c. 1912

The Bailey House, constructed c. 1912, is a two story, center passage, single-pile dwelling situated on the banks of St. Catherine Sound near Colton's Point, Maryland. Originally built by James "Fennie" Bailey, the exterior of the house is covered with stucco, but the interior still exhibits particularly elaborate appointments. The center passage, for instance, features an open string stair with a turned newel and balusters. The parlors, as well as many other rooms including the kitchen, are entirely covered with decorative, pressed-tin that feature a number of different motifs including coffers and interwoven ovals.

The main dwelling and several small cottages on the property are also important for their association with the local fishing, crabbing, and oystering industry in St. Mary's County. Born in 1927 and raised in the house, Miss Bailey vividly recalls everyday life on the water. The ready supply of waterfowl, crabs, oysters, and fish in St. Catherine Sound allowed Miss Bailey to work on the water as well. Using a rowboat, she would often use the pushnet to catch crabs along the Sound's shore as well as at nearby St. Catherine Island. She would then sell them locally. In the 1930s and early 1940s, she remembers her parents would arrange fishing parties for various organizations from Washington, D.C. and Baltimore. Volunteer fire departments as well as corporate employees would arrive and be housed in at least four, one story frame cottages that surrounded the main house. If there was not enough space, the overflow would simply camp out. For much of the day, these groups would gather on barges as well as several small boats and fish and crab in St. Catherine Sound and the nearby Potomac River. At the end of the day, Helen's mother would cook up some of the fish and crabs for dinner. This informal chartering business supplemented the Bailey's crabbing and oystering income during the summer. It also reveals how St. Mary's County was an easily reached recreational destination for city dwellers.

SM-629, Fennie and Mazie Bailey House  
St. Mary's County  
Maryland Comprehensive State Historic Preservation Data

Historic Context

Geographic Organization:	Western Shore
Chronological/Developmental Period:	Industrial/Urban Dominance, 1870-1930
Historic Period Theme:	Economic (Commercial) Architecture

Resource Type

Category:	Building
Historic Environment:	Rural
Historic Function and Use:	Residence
Known Design Source:	None

MARYLAND INVENTORY OF  
HISTORIC PROPERTIES

**Maryland Historical Trust**  
**State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. SM-629

Magi No.

DOE   yes   no

**1. Name** (indicate preferred name)

historic Part of Waterloo

and/or common Fennie and Mazie Bailey House (pref.)

**2. Location**

street & number 37694 Waterloo Road    not for publication

city, town Colton Point   X    vicinity of    congressional district 7

state Maryland county St. Mary's TM-46, G-22, P-265

**3. Classification**

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u>  </u> district	<u>  </u> public	<u>  </u> X <u>  </u> occupied	<u>  </u> agriculture
<u>  </u> X <u>  </u> building(s)	<u>  </u> X <u>  </u> private	<u>  </u> unoccupied	<u>  </u> commercial
<u>  </u> structure	<u>  </u> both	<u>  </u> work in progress	<u>  </u> educational
<u>  </u> site	<b>Public Acquisition</b>	<b>Accessible</b>	<u>  </u> X <u>  </u> private residence
<u>  </u> object	<u>  </u> in process	<u>  </u> X <u>  </u> yes: restricted	<u>  </u> entertainment
	<u>  </u> being considered	<u>  </u> yes: unrestricted	<u>  </u> government
	<u>  </u> X <u>  </u> not applicable	<u>  </u> no	<u>  </u> industrial
			<u>  </u> military
			<u>  </u> museum
			<u>  </u> park
			<u>  </u> religious
			<u>  </u> scientific
			<u>  </u> transportation
			<u>  </u> other:

**4. Owner of Property** (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Mary C. Wood and Helen Bailey

street & number 37694 Waterloo Rd. telephone no.: 301-769-3616

city, town Colton's Point state and zip code Md 20626-2111

**5. Location of Legal Description**

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. St. Mary's County Courthouse liber 14

street & number    folio 497

city, town Leonardtown state Md

**6. Representation in Existing** Historical Surveys

title   

date       federal    state    county    local

depository for survey records   

city, town    state

## 7. Description

Survey No. SM-629

### Condition

☐ excellent  
☒ good  
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated  
☐ ruins  
☐ unexposed

### Check one

☐ unaltered  
☒ altered

### Check one

☒ original site

☐ moved      date of move \_\_\_\_\_

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Contributing Resource Count: 4

Situated on banks of St. Catherine's Sound, the Bailey House is located approximately 0.3 mile west of the intersection of Waterloo Road and Waterloo Circle Road near Colton's Point, Maryland. Approached via a dirt drive that extends northward from Waterloo Road, the dwelling lies just east of the drive. Oriented on an north/south axis with the primary elevation facing north, the house features an expansive view of St. Catherine's Sound as well as the Potomac River and Virginia. The slender 1.866 acre lot is topographically level and features the main house as well as three contributing one story dwellings as well as a non-contributing metal storage shed.

Built c. 1912, the Bailey house is a two story, three bay center passage, single-pile dwelling with a telescoping series of rear wings. The house rests on a brick foundation. While the exterior walls were originally sheathed with clapboard fastened to the frame with wire nails, the exterior is currently covered with stucco. The gable roof, is covered with raised-seam metal.

The first floor fenestration of the north or primary elevation consists of a centrally located door sheltered by a glazed and wooden lobby flanked to the west by a two-over-two, double-hung sash window and to the east by a one-over-one window. All of these bays are sheltered by a porch supported by a series of plain square posts. These later posts replaced earlier chamfered posts and elaborate scroll sawn brackets. The second floor is pierced by three two-over-two windows. Immediately above the central window is a cross gable which is highlighted by a diamond shaped window as well as a pendant.

The east elevation consists of the main block's gable end and the sides of the rear wings. The main block is pierced on the second floor by two, two-over-two windows. The main block also features a centrally located interior end brick chimney flue with corbelled tops. The two story ell is pierced on the first floor by a one-over-one window while the second floor features a two-over-two window. At the juncture of the ell with the main block is an interior chimney flue. While a one-and-a-half story wing extends southward from the ell, the wing's original fenestration has become obscured by a cinder block extension. This addition is pierced by two, two-over-two windows. Another addition extends from the wing's south gable end, but it does not feature any openings.

The south elevation consists of the rear wing's gable end and the rear of the main block. The main block is pierced on the first floor by a two-over-two window and a modern door. Two, two-over-two windows pierce the building's second floor. The two-over-two window lights the first story of the wing while a similar sash lights the half story above.

The west elevation consists of the main block's gable end and the side of the ell and wing. The west gable end is pierced on the second floor by two, two-over-two windows. An interior end brick chimney flue with a corbelled top pierces the roof. The ell is pierced on the first floor by a five-panel door and a two-over-two window. The wing features a four panel door and a two-over-two window. The small cinder block addition to the south of the wing is pierced by a two-over-two window. The second floor of the ell is pierced by a two-over-two window.

# 8. Significance

Survey No. SM-629

Period	Areas of Significance—Check and justify below			
— prehistoric	— archeology-prehistoric	— community planning	— landscape architecture	— religion
— 1400–1499	— archeology-historic	— conservation	— law	— science
— 1500–1599	— agriculture	— economics	— literature	— sculpture
— 1600–1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	— education	— military	— social/
— 1700–1799	— art	— engineering	— music	humanitarian
— 1800–1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	— exploration/settlement	— philosophy	— theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900–	— communications	— industry	— politics/government	— transportation
		— invention		— other (specify)

## Specific dates

## Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☒ A ☐ B ☒ C ☐ D  
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☒ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

The Bailey House, constructed c. 1912, is a two story, center passage, single-pile dwelling situated on the banks of St. Catherine Sound near Colton's Point, Maryland. Originally built by James "Fennie" Bailey, the house is significant architecturally for the survival of its many interior finishes. The main dwelling and several small cottages on the property are also significant for their association with the local fishing, crabbing, and oystering industry in St. Mary's County.

While the exterior of the dwelling has been extensively modified by several additions and a covering of stucco, the interior exhibits particularly elaborate appointments. The center passage, for instance, features an open string stair with a turned newel and balusters. The parlors, as well as many other rooms including the kitchen, are entirely covered with decorative, pressed-tin that feature a number of different motifs including coffers and interwoven ovals. The southwest parlor displayed the most elaborate tinwork, but it has since been removed. As the most decorated space, this parlor was the formal entertaining area for the Bailey family. Helen Bailey, the youngest daughter of James "Fennie" Bailey and current occupant of the house, remembers it being the "show room" for the family's nicest possessions. The survival and widespread use of pressed-tin in a residence reflects this decorative material's popularity and availability to rural areas as well as the overall prosperity of the Bailey family.

Born in 1927 and raised in the house, Miss Bailey vividly recalls life on the water. The ready supply of waterfowl, crabs, oysters, and fish in St. Catherine Sound allowed Miss Bailey to work on the water as well. Using a rowboat, she would often use the pushnet to catch crabs along the Sound's shore as well as at nearby St. Catherine Island. She would then sell them locally. In the 1930s and early 1940s, she remembers her parents would arrange fishing parties for various organizations and "all the big shots" from Washington, D.C. and Baltimore. Volunteer fire departments as well as workers in large stores such as Leggit Drug Stores would arrive and be housed in at least four modest, one story, frame cottages that surrounded the main house. If there was not enough space, the overflow would simply camp out. For much of the day, these groups would gather on barges as well as several small boats and fish and crab in St. Catherine Sound and the nearby Potomac River. At the end of the day, Helen's mother would cook up some of the fish and crabs for dinner. This informal chartering business supplemented the Bailey's crabbing and oystering income during the summer. It is also evidence of how St. Mary's County was seen as an easily reached recreational destination for city dwellers. After the outfitting business died down, these small cottages were used to house various members of the extended family. Today, they are largely used for storage.

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. SM-629

Interview with Helen Bailey, April, 1998

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of nominated property 1.866 acresQuadrangle name Stratford HallQuadrangle scale 1:24 000UTM References do NOT complete UTM referencesA 

Zone	Easting				Northing				

B 

Zone	Easting				Northing				

C 

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D 

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E 

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F 

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G 

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H 

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### Verbal boundary description and justification

Same as per deed description.

### List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
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state	code	county	code
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## 11. Form Prepared By

name/title Kirk E. Ranzetta, Historic Sites Surveyororganization St. Mary's County Dept. of Planning & Zoningdate 6-16-98street & number 22740 Washington Streettelephone 301-475-4662city or town Leonardtownstate Md

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
Shaw House  
21 State Circle  
Annapolis, Maryland 21401  
(301) 269-2438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST  
DHCP/DHCD  
100 COMMUNITY PLACE  
CROWNSVILLE, MD 21032-2023  
514-7600

## **SM-629, The Fennie and Mazie Bailey House**

**St. Mary's County**

### **7.1 Description**

The interior of the main block consists of a center passage, single pile plan. The open string stair, now partially enclosed to conserve heat, features a turned newel and balusters. While the west parlor has lost its original decorative pressed tin, the east parlor, as well as the rear kitchen ell have retained large amounts of the covering. Installed after the original plaster had consistently failed this wall covering features a variety of motifs including coffers, interlocking ovals, faux brick, as well as egg and dart. The second floor of the main block features two bedrooms as well as a third bedroom over the rear ell. The kitchen ell is entered via the east parlor and wing is entered via the kitchen ell. Overall, the interior retains much of its original decorative appointments.

Associated with a now defunct fishing and chartering business, several one story cottages are located to the west and south of the main house. Constructed in the 1930s or 1940s, these buildings typically feature one or two rooms and are small frame structures with low foundations, clapboard exteriors, brick chimney flues, and metal roofs. The northern most building features a pyramidal roof while the other two cottages feature gable roofs.

SM-629, Fennie and Mazie Bailey House  
St. Mary's County  
8.1 Significance

Chain-of-Title

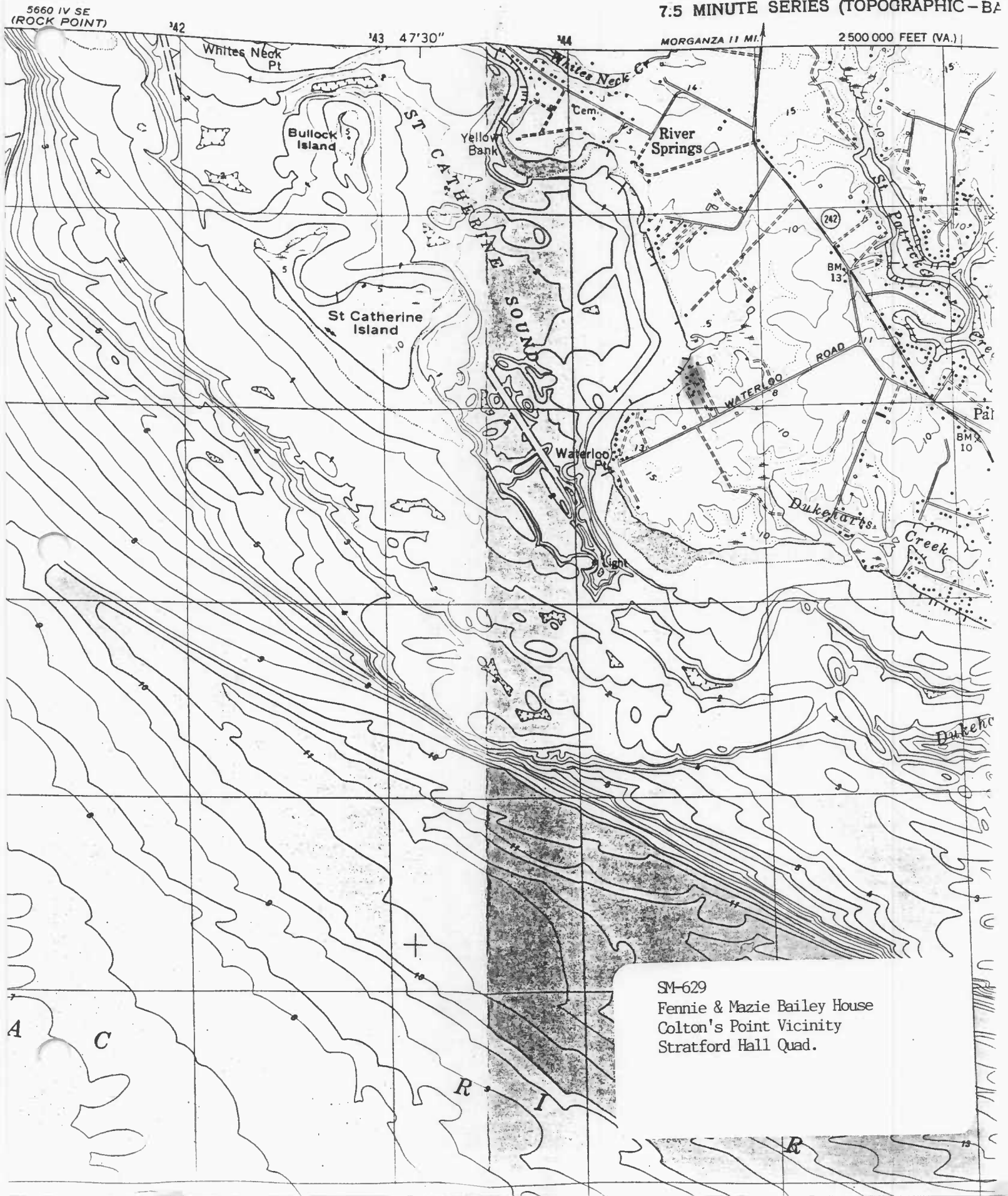
(All deeds are located at the Land Records Office, St. Mary's County Courthouse, Leonardtown, Maryland unless otherwise noted.)

Reference: Liber CBG 14, Folio 497  
Grantee: James "Fennie" Fenwick Bailey  
Grantor: Gwyndola G. Thompson  
Date: August 18, 1943

Reference: Liber CBG 14, Folio 496  
Grantee: Gyndola G. Thompson  
Grantor: J. Bruce and Flodie Quade and James F. and Mazie Rebecca Bailey  
Date: August 18, 1943  
Notes: The property is mentioned as being "Part of Waterloo" and containing 5 acres.

Reference: Liber EBA 7, Folio 261  
Grantee: J. Bruce and Flodie Quade and James F. and Mazie Rebecca Bailey  
Grantor: John D. and Jessie B. Young  
Date: February 1, 1908  
Notes: In this transfer of the five acre parcel, the deed mentions that a previously standing "dwelling house" borders the lot. It also mentions a "tenement house" as being nearby as well. No bean clause was included.







SM-629

Hennie + Mazie Smiley House

St. Mary's County

Kirk Runzetta

May/98

4d SHPO

11+1 elevation

1 of 4



SM-629

Heenie + Mazie Bailey House

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

May/98

Md SHPO

S + W elevation

2 of 4



EM-629

Fennie + Hazel Bailey Farm

St. Mary's County

Kirk Panzetta

May/92

Ad SHO

Cottages - E + S elevations

3 of 4





SM-629

Fennie & Mazie Bailey House

St. Mary's County

Kirk Ranzetta

May/98

2nd SHPO

Cottage - NE elevations

4 of 4